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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE JUDICIARY TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY AND POTENTIAL  
BENEFITS OF ESTABLISHING DWI COURT PROGRAMS IN KONA AND  
HILO ON HAWAII ISLAND.

1 WHEREAS, the pervasive problem of impaired driving is a  
2 national threat to public safety; and  
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4 WHEREAS, any impaired driving conviction results in the  
5 offender entering the criminal justice system; and  
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7 WHEREAS, courts have unique opportunities to strive for the  
8 accountability of substance abusers and to stop recidivism; and  
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10 WHEREAS, traditional forms of punishment are ineffective  
11 deterrents for repeat impaired driving offenders if  
12 unaccompanied by treatment and accountability; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, DWI Court Programs are post-conviction programs  
15 that utilize intensive supervision and long-term treatment to  
16 change the behavior of repeat impaired driving offenders; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, DWI Court Programs employ the strategies of close  
19 supervision, frequent alcohol and other drug testing, and  
20 ongoing judicial interaction to integrate treatment services  
21 into the justice system; and  
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23 WHEREAS, the Oahu First Circuit District Court implemented  
24 a DWI Court Program in 2013, and has had a zero per cent  
25 recidivism rate for subsequent impaired driving arrests of those  
26 who have graduated the program, while there is a twenty per cent  
27 recidivism rate for subsequent impaired driving arrests among  
28 those who were eligible for the DWI Court Program but chose not  
29 to screen or join; and  
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31 WHEREAS, according to 2010 census data, Hawaii Island  
32 accounts for 13.6 per cent of the population of the State, but



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1 accounts for 25 per cent of the State's impaired driving cases  
 2 and has the highest per capita incidence of impaired driving of  
 3 all counties in the State; now, therefore,

4  
 5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 6 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
 7 Session of 2016, urges the Judiciary to examine the feasibility  
 8 and potential benefits of establishing DWI Court Programs in  
 9 Kona and Hilo on Hawaii Island; and

10  
 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Judiciary is requested to report  
 12 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
 13 legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior  
 14 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

15  
 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 17 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice of the State  
 18 Supreme Court and the Administrative Director of the Courts.

19  
 20  
 21 OFFERED BY:

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